

First to the two Marys in the garden, then to certain other women and afterwards to Peter. His fourth appearance was to those two disciples on the way to Emmaus, whose hearts burned within them when they listened to his voice. A little later on during that eternally memorable Easter day, he manifested himself to two of his disciples as they sat together with closed doors. A week later, for the sixth time, he showed himself, this time to the eleven, when the unbelieving Thomas was convinced and gave as a double proof by his one act of adoration: "My Lord and my God," a proof of the resurrection and one of Christ's divinity. Some time after, while some of his disciples were toiling in vain to catch fish, he came to them and commanded them to cast the net on the other side. They obeyed, and so full was their net that they could scarcely pull it in. He then ate with them and made himself known to them. This would have been quite enough to convince the most sceptical. But Jesus wished to put the reality of his resurrection beyond doubt. To this effect he told his disciples that he would meet them once more near a certain mountain, according to some Tabor, or perhaps the Mount of Beatitudes. On that occasion no less than five hundred brethren were assembled to witness his appearance, many of whom were still alive in Paul's time, prepared to testify to the truth proclaimed by his disciples. Jesus again appeared to James, and finally to the chosen few just before he ascended to the glory of his Father. We have a right to say to those who deny the resurrection: Mention a single event recorded by history and believed by the world that can be supported by proofs so numerous and so clear? If such evidence is to be accepted as unworthy of credence, then we may as well declare that every single fact recorded by history is unreliable, and blot out all historical records, believing only what our eyes have seen and our ears have heard. We who celebrate each year our Easter Sabbath believe in a risen Saviour and thank God that he has given us so firm a ground upon which to stand.

3. *The change which takes place in the disciples.*—We find another sure proof of the reality of the resurrection of Christ in the wonderful change which suddenly took place in the mental and moral condition of the apostles. We have already seen what effect the death of Christ had produced on them. It had dashed all their hopes to the ground. They had not the slightest expectation of seeing him rise. He was dead and his work was finished. It was